

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1583

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, AFIN

SUBJECT: COFFEE -- REPRESENTATION FUNDS FOR INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS, JUNE 24 - JULY 11, 1975

REF: LONDON 8162

1. THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE 250 DOLLARS FUNDING FOR REPRESENTATION EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THE JUNE 24 - JULY 11 MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COFFEE ORGANIZATION (ICO). THIS IS A NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DRAFTING A NEW INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT.

2. THIS CONFERENCE IS THE CULMINATION OF A PERIOD OF INTENSIVE PRE-NEGOTIATIONS WHICH BEGAN IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR. ALL ICO MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO SEND HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATIONS TO THE MEETING, WITH INTEREST FOCUSING IMPORTANTLY UPON PROPOSALS FOR A NEW AGREEMENT PRESENTED BY THE UNITED STATES DURING THE FINAL SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON NEGOTIATION, APRIL 14 - 25. DURING THE APRIL 14 - 25 SESSION, 86.53 DOLLARS WAS SPENT IN TWO REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTIONS, OUT OF AN AUTHORIZED BUDGET OF 150 DOLLARS. BOTH OF THESE, ONE AT THE POLICY AND THE OTHER AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL, RESULTED IN HIGHLY USEFUL EXCHANGES OF DIRECT RELEVANCE TO THE MEETINGS.

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3. FUNDS BEING REQUESTED FOR THE NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE

WILL BE USED ESSENTIALLY IN THE SAME WAY, I.E. IN SMALL,  
LOW-KEY WORKING SUPPERS OR LUNCHEES INVOLVING KEY MEMBERS  
OF THE USDEL WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS, NORMALLY WITH ONLY  
ONE OTHER DELEGATION INVOLVED ON ANY SPECIFIC OCCASION.  
TO SOME EXTENT SUCH FUNCTIONS WOULD BE USED TO RESPOND TO  
THE VERY GENEROUS HOSPITALITY OF OTHERS, WHICH ALWAYS  
TAKES PLACE DURING COFFEE MEETINGS, BUT IN EVERY CASE THE  
PRIMARY PURPOSE WOULD BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO ONE OR MORE  
SPECIFIC POINTS AT ISSUE DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE  
WE COULD PUT A LARGER BUDGET TO GOOD USE, WE BELIEVE THE  
MODEST SUM REQUESTED WOULD MEET BASIC NEEDS FOR THE SORT  
OF REPRESENTATIONAL PROGRAM OUTLINED ABOVE.

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